

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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13

ORIGIN SCI-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

66616

DRAFTED BY: SCI/EN: GDKULICK:KSV

07/19/74 X-29266

APPROVED BY: SCI/EN WCTTRUEHEART

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R 200027Z JUL 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION CENTER FOR SHORT

LIVED PHENOMENA 60 GARDEN STREET CAMBRIDGE MASSACHUSETTS 02138

UNCLAS STATE 157601

DOLLOING REPEAT ACTION SECSTATE WASHDC OF 18 JUL 74:

QUOTE UNCLAS ROME 9942

DEPT PASS EPA AND SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION CENTER FOR SHORT  
LIVED PHENOMENA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, IT

SUBJECT: SEA POLLUTION IN THE ROME AREA

1. DURING THE PAST WEEK ROME NEWSPAPERS HAVE REPORTED THE  
APPEARANCE OF A YELLOWISH SUBSTANCE ON THE SURFACE OF THE  
LATIUM SEA COAST COVERING ABOUT 100 KM. FROM NORTH TO SOUTH  
AND ABOUT 6 KM. WIDE. THE SUBSTANCE IS JUST OFF THE BEACH  
RESORTS AROUND ROME. THE SUBSTANCE GIVES OFF THE PUTRID SMELL OF  
ROTTEN FISH AND DRIES ALMOST IMMEDIATELY ONCE EXPOSED  
TO THE AIR LEAVING A SENSATION OF TINGLING DRYNESS ON THE SKIN.

2. SEVERAL HYPOTHESES ON THE NATURE OF THE PHENOMENON HAVE HAVE  
BEEN ADVANCED BY THE VARIOUS HEALTH AND PORT AUTHORITIES SUCH  
AS UNAUTHORIZED DISCHARGES FROM CARGO SHIPS, SOLVENT TO DESTROY  
OIL SLICKS, ABNORMAL GROWTH OF ALGAE, SUDDEN OPENING OF A  
VOLCANIC ERUPTION IN THE SEA BED AND UNCONTROLLED SEWAGE  
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POLLUTION, ETC. FINALLY SOME SAMPLES WERE COLLECTED AND ANALYZED

BY THE HEALTH LAB OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROVINCE OF  
ROME AND THE RESULT WAS THAT THE YELLOWISH SUBSTANCE APPEARS TO  
BE FORMED BY BILLIONS OF MICROSCOPIC UNICELLULAR ALGAE. THESE  
HAVE NOT YET BEEN CLASSIFIED NOR HAS ANYONE DETERMINED WHY THEY  
SUDDENLY APPEARED.VOLPE UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** WATER POLLUTION, BACTERIA, LATIUM SEA  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 JUL 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974STATE157601  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** SCI/EN: GDKULICK:KSV  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740196-0433  
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**Office:** ORIGIN SCI  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** martinjw  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 OCT 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <29 OCT 2002 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <17 JAN 2003 by martinjw>  
**Review Markings:**

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30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SEA POLLUTION IN THE ROME AREA  
**TAGS:** SENV, IT  
**To:** SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION CENTER  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005